

Engineering Heritage Australia Bulletin: #16

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Engineering Heritage Australia Bulletin

One of the Engineering Heritage Australia strategies for 2022-2024 was to: "Investigate the option of EHA introducing a bulletin like the recent Bulletins from Engineering Heritage Sydney". It was always the intention of EHS to produce an EHA wide bulletin, so EHS has volunteered to do this. So, this is now officially the **Engineering Heritage Australia Bulletin**.

Australia ICOMOS submission | Warragamba Dam Raising Project Environmental Impact Statement

Australia ICOMOS has made a submission to the NSW Government objecting to the proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam wall by 14 metres, thereby allowing for periodic inundation of parts of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWA) and adjacent areas, and expressing strong concerns at the inadequacies of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process and the EIS conclusions relating to cultural heritage.

The full submission can be found at: <https://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/AICOMOS-Submission-Warragamba-Dam-Proposal-EIS-December-2021.pdf>

(From Margret Doring)

The 90th anniversary of the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge

The upcoming March 19th is the 90th anniversary of the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Watch for commemorative initiatives from the authorities – and Engineers Australia / EHA.

(From Ian Bowie)

Accessing archived NZ Engineering Heritage webpages

Refer to the note below from Ken McInnes from Engineering Heritage Victoria committee:

"The papers from the 3rd Australasian Engineering Heritage Conference, 2009 held in Dunedin, New Zealand, and from the 4th Australasian Engineering Heritage Conference, 2014, held in Christchurch, New Zealand, used to be able to be accessed freely on the old "ipenz.org" website, but I hadn't been able to find this old content on the new "engineeringnz.org" website.

However, I have found that archive.org 'Wayback Machine' has captured some of the old ipenz.org webpages including snapshots of the old NZ Engineering Heritage webpages.

For example, see the January 2019 'snapshot' at:

<<https://web.archive.org/web/20190124113412/http://www.ipenz.org.nz/heritage/default.cfm>> and follow the links to find other archived NZ Engineering Heritage webpages.

For example, the NZ conferences webpage:

<<https://web.archive.org/web/20190124113826/http://www.ipenz.org.nz/heritage/conferences.cfm>>

provides links to the 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2014 archived conference papers."

Interesting articles and talks from John August

John August is a member of Engineering Heritage Sydney, and is a Vice President of the NSW Humanists and the Pirate Party of Australia. John is fascinated with the industrial revolution and history generally and has run walking and cycling tours around Sydney and the Cooks River, covering sites of interest including industrial history, geological features, and items of general interest. Below are some of his past interesting, heritage-related talks and articles:

- A radio show on concrete, with Buzz Sanderson from the Kandos Museum, and Peter Benkendorf with a long time involvement in the industry :

<https://www.mixcloud.com/Johnorg/roving-spotlight-show-16-june-2020/>

- A talk on various items of interest in NSW, including engineering items :

<https://smsa.org.au/events/event/close-to-home-sydneys-marvels/>

-An article on some details of ore processing at Broken Hill :

<https://johnaugust.com.au/article/froth-flotation-and-broken-hill>

- An article on the WA Goldfields pipeline :

<https://johnaugust.com.au/article/wa-goldfields-pipeline>

Engineering Heritage Australia Magazine: January 2022 Issue.

January 2022 Issue of the Engineering Heritage Australia Magazine has been issued.

Refer to the note below from The Editor, Margret Doring :

“Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The first story in this issue is from Frank Johnson, who writes about the Ball’s Head Coal Loader on Sydney Harbour, a relic of the days when all the big ships were fuelled by coal. He describes its history, and how it operated, and how, after its coaling days were over and it had become a blot on the harbour landscape, it was recently transformed into a source of civic recreation and pride, but without losing all reminders of its former working life.

Mark Butz is a writer new to this magazine. He revives the memory of Walter Burley Griffin’s long lost Canberra City Railway – a railway that was planned for the new National Capital but never came to fruition.

Peter Brown, the author of The Lake Canobolas Pump House, Orange, NSW, is also new to us. The Pump House at Orange is another example of an early 20th Century technology which has been almost lost to memory, but in this case has somehow almost miraculously survived intact.

David Radcliffe is recording the histories of industrial businesses in Port Melbourne. A year ago he gave us a story about Malcolm Moore Ltd. His story in this issue is about Alfred Thomas Harman & the Port Melbourne Engineering Works.

Lastly we have an account of how Engineering Heritage Tasmania volunteers are digitising their archives and Library, and Bill Phippen reviews a new book by David Jehan.

For those who want to find the latest Magazine, AND all previous issues, go to the web page below: <https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/Communities-And-Groups/Special-Interest-Groups/Engineering-Heritage-Australia/Previous-Magazines>

I hope you enjoy reading this issue - and it makes you think of something interesting you could write about for the next issue, or later ones. Always looking for copy!”

Heritage Day at the Museum of fire.

The museum of fire in Penrith NSW will be having a heritage day next Sunday 13th February from 9 am-2 pm and the theme is ‘International’. Expect to see vehicles produced by the International Harvester Company as well as a special guest vehicle.

There’ll be fire engine rides running throughout the day for the little ones, as well as safety and historic firefighting demos by the Historic Fire Engine Association. For more info please refer to their website: <https://www.museumoffire.net/heritage-display-days>

(From Firas Shawash)

2022 Australasian Engineering Heritage Conference

The next Australasian Engineering Heritage Conference will be hosted by EHS, with John Heathers as the convenor and under the auspices of Engineers Australia’s Events Team. It will be held on 12-13 October 2022 and, at this stage, will be an on line conference due concerns regarding Covid restrictions. However, the option of a hybrid conference has not been ruled out and a physical venue will be available, if this is a viable option.

The theme of the Conference is Communications and Transport, and expressions of interest for papers will be called for shortly. If you know of people or organisations that may be interested in submitting an abstract, please let John Heathers know ASAP on: john.heathers@gmail.com

Contributions needed

Readers are invited to share news, bright ideas, issues of concern, advice about online talks – anything that would be of interest and helpful to others, by sending them to editor Firas Shawash at fshawash@yahoo.com for inclusion in the next Bulletin - more Australia-wide content would be appreciated.

Frank Johnson

**Chair, Engineering Heritage Sydney
Engineers Australia, Sydney Division**